[This transcript was created by LAI staff. It is as true a representation of the original as we could create. When a word was too difficult to decipher or was questionable we put those words in brackets. All text in brackets represents the voice of the transcriber rather than the voice of the letter writer. We have not maintained the spacing that exists in the original letters because that was not compliant with our accessibility standards. We are left justifying most lines.]

[citation information]
Collection title: Corcoran Gallery of Art and Corcoran College of Art + Design, Corcoran Gallery of Art directors' records
collection number: COR-0002-0-RG
Series 1: MacLeod, Barbarin and McGuire records
Subseries 1: Indexed correspondence
Box 2008-001
Folder 25: Letters 241-250

[Letter 241]

Yale School of the Fine Arts, New Haven, Feby 17th/74

Mr. Wm MacLeod

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 11th inst. I have to say that my lecture on [Mr.?] Ghibarti Gates has not been published, as it is a lecture which I still repeat, being largely illustrated by means of transparencies taken from the ‘gates’, in sections, and other works of art of the same period in Florence.

With respect to the placing of the cart in position, as their [might?] was considerable. I cut away the [furrings?] from the [illegible] [illegible] end of the gallery and attached the slabs directly to the stone work. The jambs and ornamental fruit and flowers work were attached to a [stout?] framing. Thus as the sketch hardly explains it I will lend a photograph of the gates as they are in position in our gallery.

The jambs were attached to the [Liary?] wood framing by means of screws, and about the whole was put a wood moulding similar to the bronze framing [which surrounds new original?] - as a base for it to rest upon. I copied the original [step?], so that as it stands it is exactly copied from the bronze doors in every respect, for this purpose I had photographs [illegible] by in designing the [illegible]. But I believe a sample was sent with the casts, as well as a complete wooden model.

Very Truly,

J.F. Weir

[Back of letter 241]
Weir J.F. New Haven Feb. 17/74
Recd Feb. 18/74
With regard to Ghiberti Gates
Answered Feb. 21/74

[Front of letter 242]
Stevens Chs. P. Baltimore Feb 13/74
Has made a Settee which he will send for inspection
Recd Feb. 14/74

[Letter 242]

[Letterhead of Charles P. Stevens Manufacturer, Cabinet Furniture, Baltimore Feb. 13 1874]

Mr. Wm MacLeod, Curator Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, DC

My dear Sir,

After some delay in getting the [illegible] [seale?] from the company who make them in N.Y. I have got the pine heavy settee finished and if your ideas and mine agree you will think it a perfect success.

All who have examined it at my place today think it very handsome. I will send it for [RR?] this evening and on Monday or Tuesday next will come down and see you in person.

Very Truly Yrs
Charles P. Stevens

[Letter 243]

McKendree Parsonage, 921 Mass. Avenue, February 27, 1874

To the Trustees of the Corcoran Art Gallery:

Dear Sirs:

I herewith forward to you the application of Miss M. Beckwith. She is every way worthy the favor asked, and I earnestly hope it will be granted.

Yours truly,
G.W. Cooper
Pastor of McKendree U.E.C.

[Enclosed application from Miss Beckwith]
Washington, D.C., February 21, 1874

To the honorable the Board of Trustees of the Corcoran Art Gallery,

Gentlemen;

I have the honor herewith to apply for permission to copy paintings belonging to your gallery, and promise to conform to the rules and regulations governing the same.

Very respectfully,
M. Beckwith, Artist

[note at bottom of application letter]
The above application is from one whom I have known from her childhood; under the impelling influences of her natural endowments she has overcome what seemed to be insurmountable difficulties and won an enviable position as an artist. To grant her the privilege she petitions for would be gratifying to her numerous friends and to myself personally.

Yours [etc.?]
John E. [Harknep?]

[Back of Letter 243]
Beckwith M. (Artist) Feb 21, 1874
Feb 27, 1874
Requests permission to copy paintings
Rcvd. Feb 27/74
Answered Feb 27/84

[Front of Letter 244]
Poore Ben Perley, Feb 25/74 [February 25, 1874]
Feb 25/74
Asks for name of Officers of the Gallery for publication in Congressional Directory

[Letter 244]

[Letterhead of the United States Senate Chamber, Washington, Feb. 25 1874]

Officers in charge of Corcoran Art Gallery,

It will give me great pleasure to publish the officers of the Corcoran Art Gallery in the Congressional Directory, with the time it is open. If I can have it this p.m. at my office, corner Pa. Av. and 15th Street.

Respectfully,
Ben Perley Poore

[Front of Letter 245]
Pringle Jane Mrs. Georgetown S.C. Feb 26, 1874
March 2, 1874
Will sell portrait of Chf Justice Shippen for $1200.00

[Letter 245]

Georgetown South Carolina Feb. 25

Wm MacLeod Esq. Curator

Sir,

I owe Mr. Corcoran an apology apparently for carelessly mistating the size of the pictured offered him. I beg you to say so to him as you consider that this mistake should compel me to make a reduction in the first price asked. I feel bound to do so and beg you therefore to offer the picture to the Committee at Twelve Hundred dollars which I trust may be a satisfactory amount.

I am [illegible]
Jane Pringle

[Back of Letter 245]
Recd and answered March 2nd/74 [March 2, 1874]

[Front of Letter 246]
Auze M. Mrs. New York Feb 27/74 [February 27, 1874]
Has sent photographs by mail (busts by Powers)

[Letter 246]

New York, February 27th, 1874

Mr. McLeod

Dear Sir,

I send you by mail today, the photographs as you requested, to be laid before the “Art Committee” and will be obliged to you to give it your attention. I suppose you understand my intention was to offer the Bust to the “Gallery of Art”, and not to Mr. Corcoran’s private collection. I wrote to him only because I did not know how to address you. You will oblige me by saying this to him; as they were placed in my charge. Genl. Preston of course knows nothing of my having written to Washington. I should have replied more promptly but I had to write about the photographs. I shall hope to hear from you again.

Respectfully Yours,
M. Auze

Direct
Mrs. M. Auze or Mrs. C. Auze
19 East 31st St, New York

[Front of Letter 247]
Bruff J. Goldsborough, Feb. 28. 1874
Recd Feb. 28, 1874
Offers “Liber Studorium of Claude Lorraine” by F.C. Lewis

[Letter 247]

Washington, Feb. 28th, 1874

Gentlemen,

Presuming that rare and exquisite works of art in book form would be desirable for your collection, as well as paintings, ie. I can accommodate you with one of the rarest and most beautiful ever published in England, and a copy of which cannot be otherwise obtained. I am not [anxious?] to part with it, but prefer that it should adorn your institution rather than any other. It is a volume, 10 by 20 [ins.?] and 2 [ins.?] thick, bound in green [material?] [stuff?] and Russian leather, [gild?]. Elegant paper.

“Liber Studorium”
of
“Claude Lorraine”

by
“F.C. Lewis, Engraver to the Queen”

Over 100 engravings of a superior character - being exact fac-similes of the original sketches of Claude Lorraine, in the British Museum, and in the collection of the Duke of Devonshire. A laborious work, done by especial permission. There were but 92 subscribers. The Queen at the head of this list of Nobility, Artists, and distinguished personages. When they received their copies, the plates were destroyed and these are the only copies [extant?]. The work was so costly and beautiful and so few published, that none possess them but subscribers and those to whom they have descended.

I am most Respectfully, Yours truly
J. Goldsborough Bruff

[Front of Letter 248]
Carlisle J.M., Feb. 20, 1874
Recd Feb. 21/74
Encloses a letter from Franklin Philp. Offering a collection of Water Colors for sale

[Letter 248]

307 D Street, Feb. 20th 74

Dear Sir,

I send you herewith a letter which I have received from Mr. Franklin Philp, which I hope you will file and lay before the board at its next meeting.

Very truly yours,
J.M. Carlisle

A. Hyde Esq.

[Enclosed letter from Mr. Franklin Philp]
1311 K St., Feby 18th, 1874

J.M Carlisle Esq.

Dear Sir,

Having decided to sell my well known collection of water colors, it has occurred to me that the Board of Trustees of the Corcoran Art Gallery might be disposed to purchase them and establish a Gallery of Works in Water Colors.

The drawings consist of fine specimens of the Modern English School by the best Artists, and were personally selected from time to time in England. They are familiar to the majority of connoisseurs in this Country.

It will afford me pleasure at any time to show the drawings to the members of the Board and repost their value.

Your very respectfully
Franklin Philp

[Back of Letter 248]
Recd Feb 21/74
To be answered verbally

[Letter 249]

[Letterhead of the Office of Charles P. Stevens, Manufacturer of Cabinet Furniture, No. 3 South Calvert Street.]

Baltimore Mrch [March] 10 1874

Mr. Wm MacLeod, Curator of Corcoran Gallery of Art

Your order for settees was duly received and the same are now being made and will be forwarded as soon as completed.

Respectfully
Charles P. Stevens [P?] [clements?]

[Back of Letter 249]
Stevens, C.P., Baltimore March 10/74 [March 10, 1874]
March 11/74
Order for Settees has been received. They are being made.

[Front of Letter 250]
Kennedy, P.M. Cincinnati, March 9/74 [March 9, 1874]
March 11/74 [March 11, 1874]

With regard to the pictures he has offered for sale

[Letter 250]

College Hill, Ohio, 9th March 1874

William MacLeod Esq. Washington

Dear Sir,

Replying to your favour of the 23rd [illegible]. The pictures referred to in my letters are of such value and importance, as to warrant the managers of any Institution of Art, in taking the usual steps of examining them, and deciding as to their being suitable for an Art Gallery. I have only again to repeat, that judges of painting will pronounce these pictures equal to anything of the kind in any of the Galleries in Europe. I can give thorough evidence of their authenticity.

I am Dear Sir Yours Respectfully
P.M. Kennedy